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## INDIA.

*Report from Bombay—Transactions of Service—Mortality from plague.*

Acting Asst. Surg. Edward H. Hume reports, June 11, as follows:

	Week ended June 7, 1904.	Last week.
Plague attacks .....	91	118
Plague deaths .....	78	109
Plague mortality per 1,000 .....	5.22	7.30
Smallpox deaths .....	12	16
Cholera deaths .....	0	0
Total deaths .....	524	578
Total mortality per 1,000 .....	35.11	38.73

Plague deaths are less than 100 for the week for the first time since January 1.

*A study of one hundred inoculations against plague.*

By EDWARD H. HUME, M. D., *Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service, Bombay, India.*

*Object of the study.*—This study was undertaken at the suggestion of Professor Haffkine, director, and of Dr. F. M. Gibson, superintendent, of the Government Plague Research Laboratory, Bombay, in order to determine:

1. The correct dose of Haffkine's prophylactic for children of various ages. Up to the present time the dose for children has been determined by taking an increasing fraction of the adult dose for each successive year until the full adult dose is reached at about the twenty-fifth year. In this way a child of five would receive one-fifth of the full adult dose, whatever that might have been determined to be for any given brew. It was felt that by this method a young child received a dose far smaller than it was capable of taking, and one, therefore, that did not give it the fullest possible protection.

2. The best hour at which to perform inoculation, (*a*) for the comfort of the patient, (*b*) in order to get the maximum reaction from a given dose.

3. Whether inoculation in children was dangerous in the presence of any preexisting disease, especially in children with a predisposition to tuberculosis.

*Time and place.*—The inoculations were all done on boys living in an orphanage conducted by the American (Congregational) Mission at Parel, Bombay. There had been a mild case of plague in the orphanage in October, 1903, and as there was a great deal of plague in the vicinity of the school the boys were about to be inoculated in any case. As they were all under one roof and under constant supervision the observations were greatly facilitated. One hundred boys were inoculated in three groups, as follows:

Group I. Twenty at 10 a. m., on March 10, 1904.

Group II. Forty at 6 p. m., on March 26, 1904.

Group III. Forty at 2 p. m., on April 12, 1904.